

Applicant : Jarmo Smahl
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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

A first element is connected to a first end of the connecting piece and a second element is connected to a second end of the connecting piece. At least one end of the connecting piece is provided with a thread, whereby the connecting piece is connectable for instance to a pipe or fitting with a threaded connection. The connecting piece may be made of plastic, ~~for example~~, in such a way that a metal insert provided with a thread is arranged at at least one end of the plastic body of the connecting piece, or the connecting piece is may be made substantially completely of thermoplast in such a way that the thermoplastic body is provided with a thread. The outer surface of the connecting piece is provided with a gripping member. The gripping member is formed and dimensioned such that it gives way earlier than the connecting member thread and/or basic structure.